

Space Weather Observations from the GOLD Mission

Richard Eastes and the GOLD Team

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Imaging the Boundary Between Earth and Space COLD



GOLD Mission of Opportunity will study how space around Earth responds to the Sun and the lower atmosphere.

GOLD will make unprecedented images of Earth's response.

GOLD FUV imager launches in 2017.

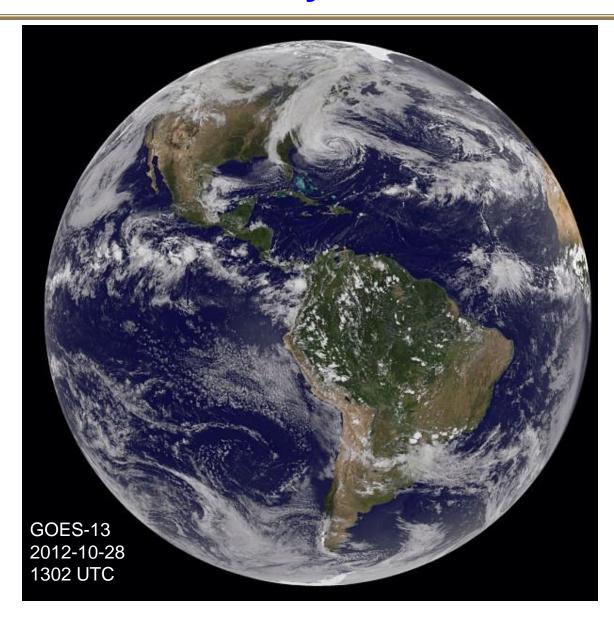
The View from Geostationary Orbit



GOLD images the disk and limb from geostationary orbit

Full images at 30-minute cadence

GOLD measures the composition and temperature of the thermosphere



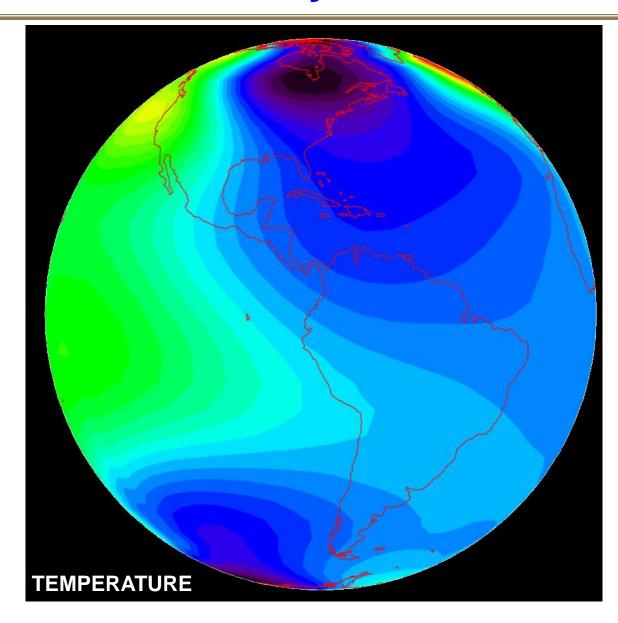
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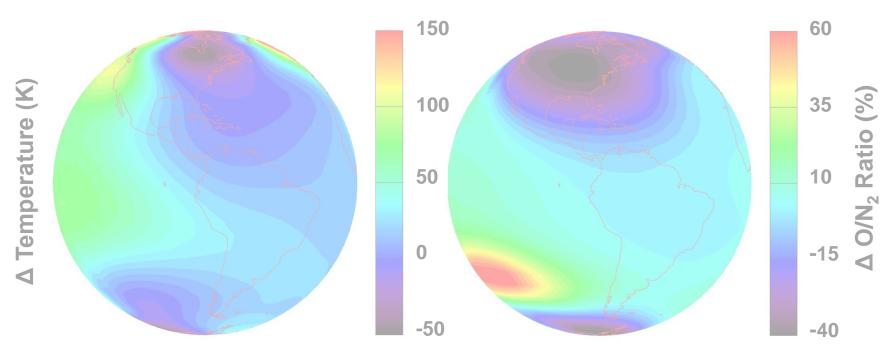


GOLD's Most Important Result



GOLD will discover how the upper atmosphere acts as a weather system

How do geomagnetic storms impact Earth's space environment?



Modeled changes in upper atmosphere during storm

Weather in the Thermosphere-lonosphere



Solar Wind and Magnetosphere

Solar Ultraviolet and X-rays

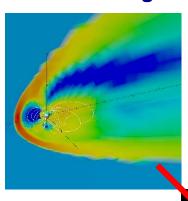
CHALLENGE:

The thermosphereionosphere system changes rapidly in response to forcing

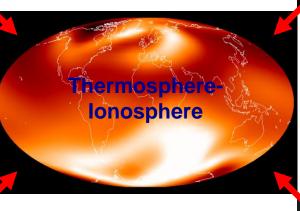
APPROACH:

Ultraviolet imaging from geostationary orbit

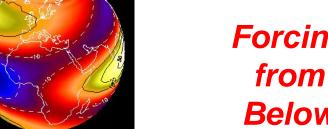
RESULT: Resolve interactions between drivers of the coupled system



Forcing from **Above**



Forcing from **Below**

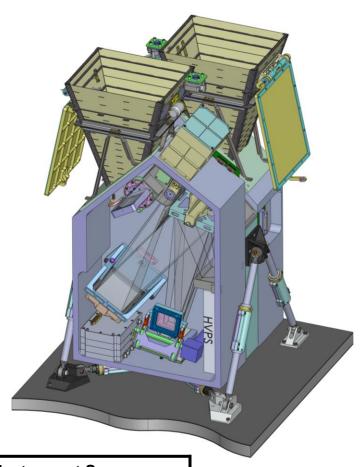






GOLD UV Imaging Spectrograph





Instrument Summary					
Mass	30 kg				
Power	24 W				
Size	42 × 42 × 70 cm				

Imaging Spectrograph:

- Two independent, identical channels
- Microchannel plate, 2-D detectors
- Individual photon events recorded
- Spectral resolution: 0.3, 1.0 and 7 nm

Heritage:

- Cassini UVIS
- MESSENGER MASCS
- MAVEN IUVS (launched Nov., 2013)

Schedule:

2011 2	2012 201	3 20	014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Phase	e A								
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	Selection	SRR	PDR	CDR	PER PS	R Launch	1	End of C)ps

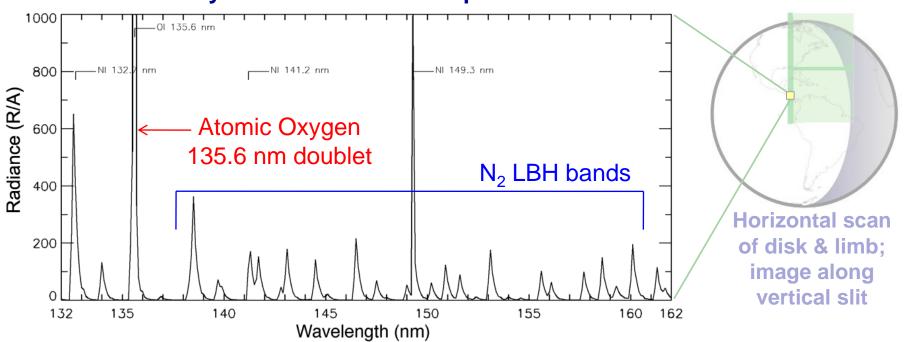
Observations:

- Disk maps of T_{neutral} and O/N₂ density ratio (dayside)
- T_{exo} from dayside limb scans
- Disk maps of N_e maximum (nightside)
- O₂ density by occultations

Proven Measurement Techniques Used



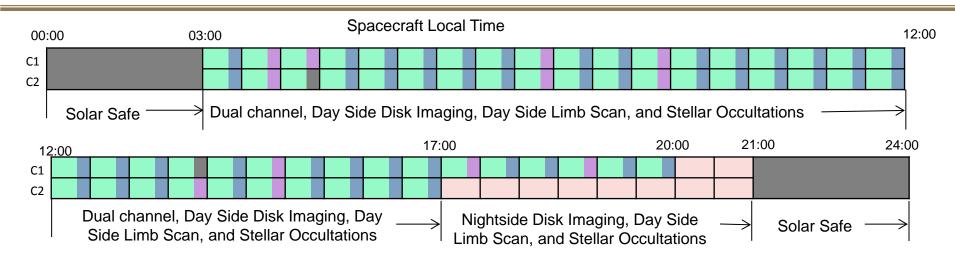




- Temperature (T_{neutral}) on disk measured using shape of N₂ LBH bands
- O/N₂ density ratio on disk measured using ratio of 135.6 doublet to LBH bands
- Exospheric temperature (T_{exo}) from N₂ limb emission altitude profile
- N_e maximum at night from 135.6 recombination emission
- O₂ profile on limb from stellar occultations

Concept for Observing Operations





Legend



Nominal GOLD observing modes:

- Full disk maps and limb scans with 30 minute cadence
 - HR (0.3 nm): Dayside (disk temperature, disk O/N₂, and T_{exo})
 Disk data products include neutral T and O/N₂ ratio at 250 km x
 250 km spatial resolution for storms
 - LR (1 nm): Nightside (disk O emissions to map N_e max and bubbles)
- O₂ occultation measurements
 - · OCC: Dayside and Nightside
 - Interrupt nominal disk scans (5% duty cycle)

Space-Weather from GOLD



GOLD addresses major goals of 2012 Heliophysics Decadal Survey:

"Determine the dynamics and coupling of Earth's magnetosphere, ionosphere, and atmosphere and their response to solar and terrestrial inputs."

"Develop a strategic capability to make global-scale atmosphere-ionosphere-magnetosphere imaging measurements from host spacecraft, notably those in...geostationary orbits."

- Unprecedented disk imaging of temperature and composition
- Able to separate changes in time from changes in location
- Coincident with ground-based measurements at 30 minute cadence
- Provides context for ground-based and LEO measurements
- Near real-time data availability

GOLD provides a new capability for Space Weather